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UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Industries

Survey, if any, of the potentialities of the manufacture of sugar from the palm juice and the palm jaggery.

692 *Q.*—Mr. Daniel Thomas: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether his attention has been drawn to resolution No. XVII of the Tinnevelly District Conference, dated 21st January 1934, asking for researches and demonstrations to be made at the cost of the Government for small-scale manufacture of white sugar from palm jaggery and palm juice;

(*b*) what action, if any, has been taken so far in regard to this matter;

(*c*) what further action the Government propose to take in regard to it;

(*d*) whether the Government have investigated the question of sugar manufacture from palm jaggery and palm juice in the Presidency and made any survey of the potentialities of the same; and

(*e*) whether the Government have any policy and, if so, what, in regard to the full development of the potentialities of sugar manufacture from palmyra juice and jaggery?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The resolution has been forwarded to the Director of Industries for necessary action.

(*c*) None.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) The question of the better utilization of palm juice has been considered, but the difficulty of securing tappers presents an almost insuperable obstacle to the extension of this industry. Available supplies of palmyra jaggery are reported to be hardly sufficient for the requirements of local consumption and existing factories in the palmyra tracts. There appears to be little scope for extending the manufacture of sugar from palmyra, but the Agricultural department has undertaken a tentative experiment on sugar making from palmyra juice from which definite results have not been obtained as yet.

Resolution of the Tinnevelly District Conference, dated 21st January 1934, regarding the establishment of a paper factory at Papanasam.

693 *Q.*—Mr. Daniel Thomas: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether his attention has been drawn to resolution No. XI of the Tinnevelly District Conference about the investigation of a proposal to start a paper factory at Papanasam;

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(*b*) the annual import into the Presidency of paper and pulp in terms of quantity and value and the annual production in the Presidency of the same in similar terms;

(*c*) the value of the annual consumption of paper in the Madras Presidency;

(*d*) whether any manner of survey of the potentialities of the Presidency including Papanasam, in the matter of paper and pulp manufacture has been made by the Government so far, and, if so, what the result of the same is; and

(*e*) whether the Government have got any policy or programme for the development of paper manufacture in the Presidency?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The annual import of paper and pulp by sea is as follows:—

Year.	Paper.		Pulp.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	TONS.	RS.	TONS.	RS.
1931–32	17,671	37,51,015	49	9,509
1932–33	19,938	39,86,403	26	6,310
1933–34 (Ten months, April 1933 to January 1934).	18,159	32,39,713	67	11,223

The annual production of paper is as follows:—

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	TONS.	RS.
1930	300	1,50,000
1931	100	50,000
1932	Nil.	Nil.

Information regarding annual production of pulp is not available.

(*c*) Information is not available.

(*d*) A survey of the potentialities of the Papanasam forests and the Rekapalli Reserve in the Upper Godavari Division was made. It is reported that sufficient raw materials are available in these areas. But the establishment of a paper factory at Papanasam depends for its success on a hydro-electric scheme on the Papanasam river for the supply of electricity to the mill.

(*e*) The Government are prepared to assist private enterprise.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR 1934–35.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The general discussion on the Budget will continue and the hon. Member, Mr. M. Devadasan, will continue his speech."

* Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"In continuing my speech, I say that the Anglo-Indians and Europeans are Christians. I beg pardon of the Members of the group representing them. Yet they are treated better